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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5262  
INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE  
RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 3230  
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 3341  
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1765  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2599  
RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 2968  
RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0029  
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0031  
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RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 2502  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

Thursday, 24 December 2009, 08:26  
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 HARARE 001004  
SIPDIS  
DEPT FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY CARSON, DAS PAGE, AND AF/S  
NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR MICHELLE GAVIN  
EO 12958 DECL: 12/24/2019  
TAGS PREL, PGOV, PHUM, ASEC, ZI  
SUBJECT: TSVANGIRAI ASKS THE WEST FOR HELP ON CHANGING THE  
STATUS QUO  
REF: HARARE 987

Classified By: AMBASSADOR CHARLES A. RAY FOR REASONS 1.4 B,D

1. (SBU) This cable includes an ACTION REQUEST, please see paragraph 8.

2. (C) SUMMARY: Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai said that while there was tremendous progress in 2009 as compared to 2008, Zimbabwe and its c

3. (C) Ambassadors of the U.S., UK, French, and the Netherlands, and a representative of the EU were called to PM Tsvangirai's residence at 07

4. (C) ZANU-PF seems to have introduced a new tactic in its agenda - reciprocity. What this means, he said, is that Mugabe is asking, "What's

5. (C) Tsvangirai said the challenges for 2010 are:

- Get the reforms moving on the constitutional process. - Open media space, national healing, and anti-corruption. - Prepare for elections in 2

He said the coalition government must expedite action in all these areas because, not only are Western governments watching, but the people of

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2010, using a multilateral approach involving all parties here and SADC. In early 2010, Tsvangirai and Mutambara will take the diplomatic lead

6. (C) Tsvangirai wants to go to Mugabe after the negotiators deliver their final report on January 15, 2010, with some idea of what the West

7. (C) On the subject of Mugabe himself, Tsvangirai said that in his recent meetings, though Mugabe seems mentally acute, he appears old and v

8. (C) COMMENT AND ACTION REQUEST. We are skeptical of Mugabe's motives, and worried a bit at what appears to be naivete on Tsvangirai's part.

RAY